

West Central Region Forest Pest Update – 1/3/2006

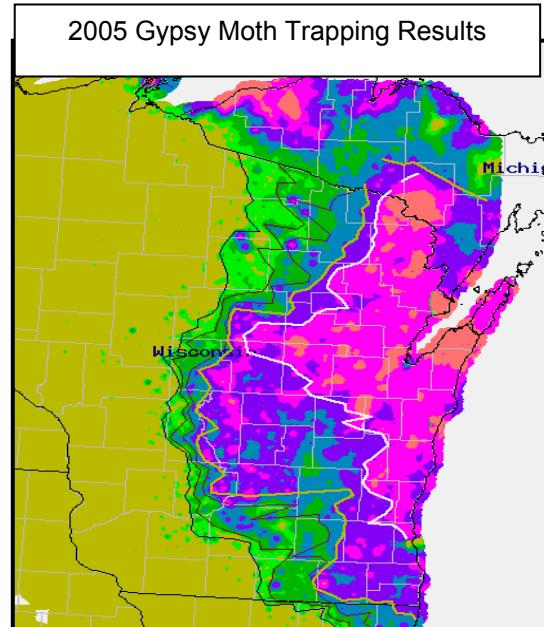
Topics	
Insects: Gypsy Moth Sirex woodwasp	Diseases: none
Other: Forest Health Highlights 2004 online	

Insects:

Gypsy Moth

Gypsy moth populations have rebounded a bit from 2004's statewide population crash. You can look at the Slow-the-Spread website at <http://da.ento.vt.edu/results3.html>

for an interactive map of this year's trap results. The pink areas have 100-300 male moths caught per trap; you can see there are some of these "hot pockets" in Marathon, Portage, Wood and Adams Cos. This summer and fall I received reports about nuisance caterpillars or egg masses from landowners in all these counties. If you want to see how many moths each trap caught, go online and click twice on the map in your county. You can also overlay the trap catches on a vegetation map by selecting 'STS Decision + Vegetation'.



This winter the gypsy moth group will hold a one-day training "Developing a Gypsy Moth Management Plan for Public Properties" on Wed., Feb. 15, 2006, at Schmeekle Reserve, UW-Stevens Point. This same training was held in Black River Falls in Feb., 2004 and Park Falls in Feb., 2005. Attending this training and completing a Gypsy Moth Management Plan will qualify property managers to compete for the State Forest Productivity and Sustainable Forestry Funds. Please let Bria Radtke know if you are interested in attending this session or want to know more about how you can tap into this funding. (*The State Forest Productivity Fund has \$77,500 earmarked for gypsy moth-related work and the Sustainable Forestry fund has \$45,000. Projects can be planning, forest recon, non-commercial thinning and suppression, and possibly also dealing with other invasive forest pests, including plants.*)

Sirex Woodwasp

Sirex noctilio, a woodwasp native to Europe and Asia, was first found in Sept. 2004 in a trap in Oswego Co., New York, just south of Lake Ontario. Since then it has been found in 4 neighboring counties in New York and several locations in southern Ontario, just across the lake. It was likely introduced in solid wood packing material. *Sirex woodwasp* is a secondary pest of trees in its native range, but is predicted to be a major pest of pine plantations in North America should it become established. *Sirex* prefers to feed on pine but will attack spruce, fir, larch, and Douglas fir.

North America has many native woodwasps (a.k.a. horntails). Horntails are cousins to sawflies. They are long bodied, up to 1-1/2 inches, with spinelike projections on their rear. The female has a long, stout ovipositor. These native horntail larvae bore into limbs and trunks of dead and dying trees.



Read more about Sirex woodwasp at:

http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/pest_al/sirex_woodwasp/sirex_woodwasp.htm

And

http://www.safnet.org/archive/Woodwasp_July%202005.pdf

Other:

The Annual Report of Forest Health Conditions 2004

The Annual Report of Forest Health Conditions, 2004 is now available on the DNR forestry website:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/forestry/Fh/AnnualReport/AnnualReport2004.pdf>. The short version of this report, Wisconsin Forest Health Highlights 2004 is available at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/forestry/Publications/FHH04.pdf>.

Quote:

*Good timber does not grow with ease;
the stronger the wind, the stronger the trees.*

- J. Willard Marriott